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# The Daniel E. Salmon Scholarship Program

*for Undergraduate and Graduate Students*



Daniel E. Salmon was founding chief of the USDA's Bureau of Animal Industry, predecessor of today's Veterinary Services. As a member of Cornell University's first class of graduates, he earned his bachelor's degree in veterinary medicine in 1872, and 4 years later, Cornell awarded him the first

Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine degree in the country. Today, Salmon is best known for identifying the infectious pathogen *Salmonella* and pioneering the fight against contagious diseases. His work contributed immeasurably to improving public health and disease control efforts.

VS is pleased to sponsor this scholarship program in the name of one of its most distinguished veterinarians.

### ***A Career Choice That Can Make a Difference***

If you are interested in an exciting and rewarding career that has an impact on the health of animal agriculture, consider the Daniel E. Salmon Scholarship Program. The scholarship program is designed to recruit non-veterinary students to careers that support and are critical to the VS mission.

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**Veterinary Services (VS), a program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is proud to sponsor the Daniel E. Salmon Scholarship Program for undergraduate and graduate students in non-veterinary fields of study that support and are critical to the VS mission.**

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As a VS employee, you will be part of an organization with a multidisciplinary approach to managing disease, responding to animal health crises, addressing trade issues, providing laboratory support, regulating veterinary biologics, and analyzing animal health issues. Having a wealth of talented people in our organization is critical for our continued excellence in today's fast-paced and increasingly complex scientific world. In addition to veterinarians, some of our key positions include microbiologists, entomologists, and budget and management analysts. Salmon scholarship positions will be identified in various locations throughout the United States. *Students pursuing professional veterinary degrees who are interested in working for VS should apply through the Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Scholarship Program. Please refer to the section in this brochure entitled "For More Information."*

## **What Does the Daniel E. Salmon Scholarship Program Offer You?**

**Tuition.** You will receive up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year for undergraduate studies and up to \$10,000 per year for graduate studies, for tuition and fees associated with your course of study. *Selected students will begin receiving scholarship benefits at the start of the fall semester after signing agreements with the agency.*

**Benefits.** You will be eligible to participate in the Federal Employees Retirement System and the Thrift Savings Plan (401K) as well as receive paid vacation and sick leave. Based on the length of the paid work periods, compensation may also include life and health insurance benefits.



**Employment While Attending School.** Paid employment during summers and school breaks under a Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) appointment is part of the program. SCEP work requirements must be completed prior to, or concurrent with, the completion of scholarship educational requirements. Work locations for scholarship positions will be identified in scholarship announcements.

**Conversion to a Permanent Position.** At VS' option, within 120 days following completion of the educational and SCEP work requirements, the scholar will be converted without further competition to a permanent Federal appointment. The scholar will be required to work for VS at least 1 calendar year (12 months) for each school year (2 semesters, 3 quarters, or the equivalent) covered by the scholarship program. If the scholar does not accept an offer of permanent employment with VS, or if the required VS employment period after the conversion is not satisfied, he or she must reimburse VS for the applicable scholarship monies awarded.



## **Scholarship Eligibility Requirements**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens and meet the educational and curriculum requirements of the scholarship position for which they apply. These requirements, as well as the specific duties of the SCEP position, will be stipulated in each scholarship announcement. Additional scholarship eligibility requirements are listed below.

### **Undergraduate Scholarship Positions**

Upon applying to an undergraduate scholarship announcement, students must (1) be enrolled in an accredited college or university within the United States and (2) be continuously registered as full-time students in good academic standing in their first or second undergraduate academic school year. Therefore, undergraduate scholarship SCEP appointments will become effective in the fall of the students' second or third academic school year.

Prior to the effective date of a SCEP appointment, second year students will have completed at least 1 year (30 semester or 45 quarter hours) of a 4-year undergraduate studies program. Third year students will have completed at least 2 years (60 semester or 90 quarter hours) of a 4-year undergraduate studies program.

### **Graduate Scholarship Positions**

Upon applying to a graduate scholarship announcement, applicants must (1) be enrolled in an accredited college or university within the United States and be continuously registered as full-time students in good academic standing in their senior year of undergraduate studies or (2) have already obtained an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university within the United States. Therefore, graduate scholarship SCEP appointments will become effective in the fall of the first academic school year.

*Proof of acceptance to a graduate degree program in an accredited college or university within the United States is required.*



## ***Leading the Charge to Safeguard Animal Agriculture***

VS employees are responsible for safeguarding animal agriculture in the United States. VS' diverse workforce is dedicated to preserving, protecting, and enhancing animal health. A sharp increase in global commerce and travel means that VS is facing greater challenges than ever to accomplish its mission: protecting and improving the health, quality, and marketability of the Nation's agricultural animals, animal products, and veterinary biologics. VS practices preventive veterinary medicine on a broad scale, dealing with animal health issues of statewide, regional, national, and international importance. If a foreign animal disease is introduced into the United States, it can greatly damage not only our agricultural economy but the larger U.S. economy as well, costing billions of dollars to eradicate. VS employees are part of the first line of defense against the establishment and spread of foreign animal diseases as well as a force for the rapid elimination of certain domestic diseases.

### ***Many Goals, One Mission***

APHIS is a multi-faceted agency with a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act, and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. APHIS builds and maintains a world-class system that safeguards the health of animals, plants, and ecosystems in the United States and fosters safe agricultural trade worldwide, resulting in abundant and affordable agricultural products for U.S. and international consumers. These efforts support the overall mission of USDA, which is to protect and promote food, agriculture, and natural resources.



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## To Apply

Students interested in the scholarship program must apply to specific scholarship announcements. When available, scholarship announcements will be posted between January and February of each year at [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/). Please click on "Work for VS" for information.

Qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status, or any other non-merit factors.

Since scholarship positions are in the excepted service, there is no formal rating system for applying Veterans' preference to student appointments. However, the VS program considers Veterans' preference eligibility as a positive factor in student hiring. Applicants eligible for Veterans' preference must include that information in their application and attach supporting documentation.

## For More Information

General questions related to the Daniel E. Salmon Scholarship Program can be directed to the VS Management Support Staff at (301) 734-7517. Questions related to your scholarship application should be directed to the Human Resources Office contact found in each scholarship announcement.

For more information about careers with VS, including the Saul T. Wilson, Jr., Scholarship Program, a program for veterinary students, please visit our Web site at [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/) and click on "Work for VS."



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